

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 185965  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-08 /101 R

DRAFTED BY AF/E:RPOST:LA  
APPROVED BY AF/E:JWHITING  
AF/:TWSEELYE

-----016952 062029Z /65

O R 061925Z AUG 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T STATE 185965

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: MASS, UK, US, ET

SUBJECT: UK ATTITUDE TOWARD SOMALI ARMS REQUEST

REF: (A) LONDON 12893; (B) STATE 184570

1. ON AUGUST 5, AF/E DIRECTOR BRIEFED BRITISH EMBOFF ON  
SUBSTANCE REF B AND RECEIVED IN EXCHANGE BRIEFING ALONG  
SECRET

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LINES REF A. EMBOFF ADDED THAT HMG FEELSTHAT DEVELOPMENTS  
IN THE OGADEN PRESENT A SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGED SITUATION  
FROM THAT WHICH PERTAINED WHEN THEY AGREED TO PROVIDE  
ARMS TO SOMALIA. WITH REGULAR SOMALI UNITS IN THE  
OGADEN, HMG FEELS THAT ANY SOMALI ASSURANCE THAT ARMS  
SUPPLIED WOULD NOT BE USED FOR EXPANSIONIST PURPOSES WOULD  
HAVE TO BE RECEIVED WITH SKEPTICISM. BRITISH ARE OF

OPINION THAT SOVIETS MIGHT WELL SUCCEED IN COMPELLING SOMALIS TO WITHDRAW FROM THE OGADEN, AND THEN RE-ESTABLISH SOVIET DOMINANCE OVER SOMALI GOVERNMENT (AF/E DIRECTOR EXPRESSED RESERVATIONS ABOUT LATTER POSSIBILITY). BRITISH FEEL THAT THE WEST AND FRIENDLY ARABS WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SOMALIS SUFFICIENT SUPPLIES TO GIVE SOMALIS ENOUGH CONFIDENCE TO STAND UP TO THE SOVIETS.

2. BRITISH ACCORDINGLY PLAN GIVE SOMALI DELEGATION ON ITS RETURN TO LONDON NEXT WEEK "A STRAIGHT ANSWER" CONCERNING ITS SHOPPING LIST BUT WILL NOT GIVE IT ANY SPECIAL TREATMENT OR URGENCY. EMBOFF INTERPRETED STRAIGHT ANSWER TO MEAN REHEARSAL OF PRODUCTION LINE DIFFICULTIES, UK INABILITY TO RESPOND WITH ANYTHING LIKE THE MAGNITUDE OF THE SOMALI REQUEST, SPELLING OUT DETAILS, AND REITERATING FACT THAT ANYTHING PROVIDED WOULD BE ON STRAIGHT CASH BASIS, NOT, AS REQUESTED BY SOMALIS, GRANT.

3. BRITISH UNDERSTANDTHATSOMALI DELEGATION VISITED PARIS EN ROUTE LONDON AND RECEIVED SIMILAR RESPONSE FROM FRENCH. CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, MILITARY SALES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 LONDON 12893, 77 STATE 184570  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1681783  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** UK ATTITUDE TOWARD SOMALI ARMS REQUEST  
**TAGS:** MASS, UK, US, ET, SO  
**To:** MOGADISCIO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009